Kenneth Rede Papers 1843-1934
MS27

Finding aid prepared by Kelly Peters

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections
December, 2006
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Summary Information

Repository	Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections
Title	Kenneth Rede Papers
Date	1843-1934
Extent	2.0 Linear feet 3 boxes
Language	English
Abstract	The Kenneth Rede Papers contains manuscripts, correspondence, and scrapbooks of Rede’s work about the life and writings of Edgar Allan Poe. The scrapbooks are noteworthy as one of them pertains to a manuscript by Rede about Poe.

Biographical/Historical note

Kenneth Rede was a nationally known authority on the writings and life of Edgar Allan Poe as well as president of the Edgar Allan Poe Society at the time of his death. He had written many book reviews for the Baltimore Evening Sun and special articles for the Baltimore Sunday Sun on subjects pertaining to Poe's life, works and family.

Rede was born to a Dr. Wyllys and Carolyn Rede in Atlanta, Georgia, yet was raised in Brunswick, Georgia, where he spent the first four years of elementary school. His family later moved to Quincy, Illinois, where he finished grammar school. From Quincy, the family moved to Trappe, Maryland, where Rede attended high school at Trappe High School and then later, at the Friends School and Mt. Vernon College in Baltimore, the school his father owned. The school would later close in 1925.

He attended college at the Johns Hopkins University and graduated in 1922, with a bachelor of science. He majored in English and minored in History. He went on to become the principal of Mt. Vernon College, where he also taught English and History. He would then become principal and educational director of the Point Breeze Club Evening School in 1930. Rede died of pneumonia on Nov. 21, 1934, at the age of 37.

Scope and Contents note

The Kenneth Rede collection includes manuscripts, correspondence and scrapbooks of Rede's work as a reviewer, writer and collector of Edgar Allan Poe material. This collection complements the already strong presence of Poe material in the library's Special Collections Department. Overall, the materials are mostly handwritten or typewritten letters as well as manuscripts that are in remarkable shape. Rede took care of the meticulous order of his papers. The original order of the scrapbooks has been maintained though the covers had to be discarded.

Arrangement note

The Kenneth Rede Collection is not arranged into series due to its size. Folder level descriptions are given in the container list on the following pages.

Box 1 contains correspondence, reviews, manuscripts, etc., regarding Poe's writings.

Box 2 contains a scrapbook of the performance of “Politian” at Goucher College in Feb. 1933. “Politian” was a play written by Edgar Allan Poe, based on a real-life event in modern times, set in ancient Rome. The scrapbook was kept in its original order, with correspondence divided by years. Within the correspondence, letters were arranged according to date.

Box 3 contains a scrapbook pertaining to the manuscript of “A Census of First Editions and Source Materials by or Relating to Edgar Allan Poe in American Public and Private Collections,” by Rede. This anthology would be issued in three volumes and was considered a very thorough and complete source for Poe materials. The scrapbook, again, was kept in its original order, with correspondence arranged according to date.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections December, 2006

Revision Description

Entered into Archivist's Toolkit by Joan M. Wolk. September, 2015

Conditions Governing Access

Unrestricted, open by appointment.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

The Kenneth Rede Collection spans one cubic foot and was donated to the Enoch Pratt Free Library after his death in December 1934.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Baltimore sun.
- Edgar Allan Poe Society of Baltimore (Md.).

- Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- manuscripts (document genre)
- scrapbooks

Personal Name(s)

- Poe, Edgar Allan, 1809-1849
- Rede, Kenneth

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Jan. 1843 issue of Graham's Magazine. "The Conquerer Worm," by Edgar Allan Poe.	1	1
British reviews of Edgar Allan Poe	1	1
Tait's Magazine-1852	1	1
North British Review-1852	1	1
Hogg's Instructor-1854	1	1
La Grande Revue, October 1, 1902: "Le rendez-vous" by Edgar Allan Poe.	1	2
La Grande Revue, 1926: "Pourquoi le petit Francais porte le bras en charpe," by Edgar Allan Poe	1	2
Reprints from American Literature	1	3
"Poe Notes: From an Investigator's Notebook," by Kenneth Rede, Vol V, No. 1, March 1933	1	3
"Poe Notes: 'Pinakidia' and 'Some Ancient Greek Authors,' by David K. Jackson, Vol. 5, No. 3, November 1933	1	3

Letter from James H. Whitty to Kenneth Rede dated Nov. 13, 1924.	1	4
Reprint of article in The Step Ladder: “Poeana,” by James H. Whitty, Vol. XIII, Oct. 1927.	1	4
Letter from Edgar Allan Poe Shrine, Inc. to Kenneth Rede, April 12, 1933	1	5
Letters from Killis Campbell, professor of English at the University of Texas: April 3-Nov. 22, 1932	1	6
Letters from Charles F. Heartman: Nov. 1 & 4, 1932	1	7
L.H. Dickman-Nov. 23, 1932	1	8
Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California-Oct. 28, 1932	1	8
Baltimore Morning Sun-Dec. 23, 1932	1	8
State of New Jersey, Dept. of Agriculture, Harry B. Weiss- June 18, 1932	1	8
Cornell University Library-Nov. 17, 1932	1	8
Manuscript-“Poe’s Actor Parents in Baltimore,” by Kenneth Rede; undated	1	9
Manuscript, 56 pages or ancestry, parentage, birth, death of parents of Edgar Allan Poe, by Kenneth Rede; undated	1	10

Chronological outline of Poe’s life-handwritten by Kenneth Rede, with notes; undated	1	11
Rede’s scrapbook on the performance of “Politian” by The Virginia Players at Goucher College in Feb. 1933	2	12-19

	Box	**Folder**
Cover page and index	2	12
Correspondence: Jan. 23-Feb. 6, 1933	2	13
Correspondence: Feb. 7-10, 1933	2	14
Correspondence: Feb. 12-21, 1933	2	15
Publicity (materials for newspaper publicity)	2	16
Publicity (advertisements, posters, programs, etc.)	1	17
Newspaper publicity	2	18
Addenda (Statement of Receipts and Expenses)	2	19
Scrapbook regarding manuscript of “A Census of First Editions and Source Materials by or Relating to Edgar Allan Poe in American Public and Private Collections,” 1929-1932.	3	20-36

	Box	**Folder**

Correspondence: 1932	3	20
Correspondence: 1931	3	21
Manuscript; 53 pages	3	22
Part of the manuscript: Library of Congress, New York Public Library, Henry E. Huntington Library, Yale University Library, Boston Public Library, Harvard College Library, Chapin Library-Williams College, Peabody Institute, Maryland Historical Society	3	23
Correspondence: 1928	3	24
Manuscript: “A Checklist of Maryland Imprints 1727 to 1820 in Evergreen Library,” by John W. Garrett.	3	25
Correspondence: 1930	3	26
Correspondence: 1929	3	27
Rede’s review of “Edgar Allan Poe-The Man,” by Mary E. Phillips; for the Baltimore Evening Sun, Nov. 14, 1926	3	28
Manuscripts; “Literary Baltimore,” by Kenneth Rede	3	29
Manuscripts; “Some Literati of Baltimore,” by Kenneth Rede, 1923	3	30
Manuscript; “Byron One Hundred Year Later,” by Kenneth Rede	3	31

Reviews by Kenneth Rede	3	32
Manuscript; “Apology for Bookbinding,” by Kenneth Rede	3	33
Speeches	3	34
Correspondence: 1926	3	35
Submission for publication: “The Critical Year of the War,” transcribed by Kenneth Rede; to The Atlantic Monthly	3	36